

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 21, as follows:

--As shown in Fig. 2, an image forming apparatus 300 (color laser beam printer) has a process cartridge 2 (2Y, 2M, 2C, and 2Bk) fixed thereto. The cartridge 2 has an electrophotographic sensitive member (which will hereinafter be referred to as a "photosensitive drum") 21 (21Y, 21M, 21C, and 21Bk) rotated at a predetermined speed for each of various colors Y, M, C, and Bk. The image forming apparatus also has an intermediate transfer member 35. The intermediate transfer member 35 is a part for retaining a color image thereon which is developed in the cartridge 2 and multiplexly-transferred to the intermediate transfer member, and further transferring the same image to a recording medium P sent from a feed unit. The image forming apparatus 300 further has a fixing unit 50 for fixing the color image on a color image-transferred recording medium P, and discharge roller pairs 53, 54, and 55 for discharging the recording medium P onto a discharge tray 56 provided on an upper surface of the apparatus. The above-mentioned cartridges 2Y, 2M, 2C, and 2Bk for images of four colors are formed so that the cartridges can be separately attached to and detached from the main body of an image forming apparatus. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 8, line 20, as follows:

--The photosensitive drum 21 (21Y, 21M, 21C, and 21Bk) constituting an electrophotographic photosensitive member is formed by applying a layer of an organic photoconductor to an outer circumferential surface of an aluminum cylinder. The photosensitive drum 21 is supported rotatably in a container 24 (24Y, 24M, 24C, and 24Bk). A driving force of a

driving motor (not shown) is transmitted to one end of the photosensitive drum 21. This causes photosensitive drum 21 to be rotated in accordance with an image forming operation. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 4 as follows:

--The charging means uses a contact charging system, in which a conductive charging roller 23 (23Y, 23M, 23C, and 23Bk) formed in the shape of a roller is brought into contact with a surface of the photosensitive drum 21. Simultaneously with the charging roller engaging operation, the surface of the photosensitive drum 21 is charged uniformly by applying a voltage to the charging roller 23 (23Y, 23M, 23C, and 23Bk). --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 13 as follows:

--A scanner unit 1 exposes the photosensitive drum 21. An image signal is given to a laser diode. This laser diode applies image forming light 10 (10Y, 10M, 10C, and 10Bk) corresponding to the image signal to a polygon mirror 11 (11Y, 11M, 11C, and 11Bk). This polygon mirror 11 is rotated at a high speed by a scanner motor. The image light 10 reflected on the polygon mirror 11 exposes the surface of the photosensitive drum 21 selectively which is rotated at a predetermined speed via an image forming lens 13 (13Y, 13M, 13C, and 13Bk). As a result, an electrostatic latent image is formed on the photosensitive drum 21. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 26 as follows:

--A developing means develops the electrostatic latent image into a visible image. For this purpose, the developing means is formed by four development units capable of developing

images of each of the colors including yellow, magenta, cyan, and black. Each development unit ~~222~~ (222Y, 222M, 222C, and 222Bk) for images of four colors is opposed to the photosensitive drum 21 and disposed in a position in which a developing roller 22 (22Y, 22M, 22C, and 22Bk) contacts the photosensitive drum 21 as the roller is rotated. A visible image made of a toner of each color is then formed on the photosensitive drum 21.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 10, line 12, as follows:

--An intermediate transfer member 35 multiplexly transfers thereto during a color image forming operation a toner image made visible by each cartridge 2 (2Y, 2M, 2C, and 2Bk) and formed on the photosensitive drum 21. For this purpose, the intermediate transfer member is rotated clockwise on the drawing and synchronously with a peripheral speed of the drum 21 of a photosensitive material 21. The toner image formed on the photosensitive drum 21 is multiplexly transferred onto the intermediate transfer member 35 in a primary transfer section, which constitutes a contact point with respect to a voltage-applied primary transfer roller ~~34~~ (34Y, 34M, 34C ~~34~~, and 34Bk ~~34k~~) disposed in a position opposed to the photosensitive drum 21 with the intermediate transfer member 35 held therebetween. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 13, line 20 as follows.

--The irradiation of the yellow image forming light ~~10~~ is conducted by the scanner unit ~~1Y~~ to form a yellow latent image on the photosensitive drum 21Y. Simultaneously with the formation of this latent image, the yellow image developing roller 22Y is driven, and the developing of the yellow image is done by applying to the photosensitive drum 21Y a voltage the

polarity and potential of which are substantially identical with those of the photosensitive drum 21Y so that the yellow toner is deposited on the latent image on the same drum. At the same time, the yellow toner image on the photosensitive drum 21Y is primarily transferred to an outer circumference of the intermediate transfer member 35 in a primary transfer area T1Y provided on the downstream side of the developing area. During this time, the primary transfer of the toner image is carried out with a voltage the characteristics of which are contrary to those of the yellow toner applied to the intermediate transfer member 35.--.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 15, line 15 as follows:

--The recording medium P passing through the secondary transfer area T2 is peeled off from the intermediate transfer member 35, transferred to the fixing unit and subjected to a toner fixing operation. The recording medium P is then discharged with an image surface directed downward onto the discharge tray 56 via the discharge rollers 53, 54, and 55 to finish the image forming operation. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 16, line 4 as follows:

--A front cover 14, which is fixed to a unit in one body which unit includes the intermediate transfer member 35, for the apparatus body is opened rightward (in the frontward direction of the apparatus body). As a result, a cartridge storage guide 101 holding four cartridges 2 therein is exposed. As a result, the cartridge storage guide is inclined at an angle of about 35° \pm 35° around a center 101a of a pivotal movement thereof. This enables the operations for attaching and detaching the cartridge 2 to and from the main body of the apparatus to be

carried out. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 17, line 14 as follows:

--In this embodiment, a flexible member 26 of a thickness of up to around ~~20 μ m to 500~~
 ~~μ m~~ 20 μ m to 500 μ m can be used. The thickness may be selected from levels in the range which
does not spoil the storing ability, which will be described later, of the flexible member. In short,
a flexible material may be used for this member even when the thickness thereof is large, and,
when fiber (cloth) having a flexibility is used, the thickness thereof can be set to even not smaller
than 1 mm. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 17, line 23 as follows:

--The flexible member 26 in the first embodiment uses a PE (polyethylene) film of
around ~~100 μ m~~ 100 μ m in thickness. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 18, line 2, as follows:

--In order to shield the photosensitive drum 21 from the light, the flexible member 26 in
the first embodiment is colored black. Besides such a colored flexible member 26, a
carbon-containing conductive film (having, for example, a surface resistance value of not higher
than 10^{10} Ω /square ~~10^{10} Ω /sq~~) can also be used. The aforementioned structure improves light
shielding ability, so that damage to the photosensitive drum 21 can be prevented, and, moreover,
the flexible member 26 turns into a conductive film owing to the carbon contained therein. This
enables the charging of a memory with static electricity to be prevented. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 18, line 14 as follows:

--The regulating member 27 in this embodiment is made of a plate type reinforcing member the material of which is more rigid than that of the flexible member 26, and fixed on the flexible member 26. The fixing method for the regulating member may be any one of the methods using an adhesive double-coated tape, a bonding agent and heat sealing techniques. In the first embodiment, a PET (polyethylene terephthalate) sheet of around 100 μm in thickness is pasted on the flexible member 26. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 32, line 22, as follows:

--In the condition in which the flexible member 26 is in the protection position, the flexible member 26 is bent to an outer side of the cartridge 2 so that the flexible member does not contact the electrophotographic photosensitive drum 21, ~~21,~~ --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 34, line 27, as follows:

--a regulating member 27 provided on the flexible member 26 so as to regulate the positions of the creases 26Q and 26R ~~26Q, 26R~~ which occur on the flexible member 26 in accordance with the pivotal movement of the support member 25, and which extend in parallel with the longitudinal direction (or the axis of rotation) of the electrophotographic photosensitive drum 21, --